(b) The State Government of Gujarat has requested for setting up Internet Exchange in Ahmedabad.

The Project has been approved by Department of Information Technology (DIT) and funds have been released.

Model Concession agreement to avoid delays and cost-overruns

*508. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether to avoid delays and cost overruns the NHAI is adopting a new model concession agreement;

(b) if so, what are the new clauses that have been introduced which can check the overruns;

(c) whether the new proposed concession clauses can expedite the languishing and pending highway projects in Andhra Pradesh;

(d) if so, the details of the projects that have been earmarked for completion in 2006-07 and have remained incomplete alongwith the total length of the roads to be laid; and

(e) the elaborate measures initiated to accelerate the work pertaining to pending projects during the last year?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The new Model Concession Agreement (MCA) is being adopted for Build, Operate & Transfer (BOT) projects where,

(i) cost overrun for project is not expected (except for change of scope, if any) as any cost overrun in the normal cause is to be absorbed by the concessionaire.

(ii) time overrun in project completion is also not expected (except for change of scope, if any) as the concessionaire has strong incentive to complete in time in order to gain benefit of tolling/ annuity payment which are entitled only upon completion of the project.

(c) to (e) None of the contracts currently implemented under the National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase I and Phase II in Andhra Pradesh, are as per the new MCA as these contracts were awarded prior to adopting new MCA. However, new MCA would be followed for stretches identified under NHDP Phase III on BOT basis in Andhra Pradesh.

Complaints of emigrant workers

*509. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Government are of late receiving frequent complaints about non-payment of wages, certain changes of working atmosphere contrary to committed works, frequent and forceful changes of works, from the emigrant workers of our country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by Government thereon; and

(d) what are the other mechanism/monitoring to protect the rights of emigrant workers of our country?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (d) Complaints are received from time to time alleging cheating and exploitation of Indian workers by some registered/unregistered recruiting agents in India and by some foreign employers abroad. The details of the complaints received for the last three years against Recruiting Agents and action taken is as below:

(i)

Year	No. of Complaints	Show Cause Notices issued	No. of Registration Certificates Suspended/ cancelled	No. of Complaints dropped/ resolved	Cases pending which are being followed up
2005	41	41	24	17	Nil
2006	167	167	65	69	33
2007	23	23	8	5	10